



**National
Security
Agency**

**NSA Bridge CA
Demonstration**



Bridge Certification Authority Technology Demonstration Phase 2

Briefing to Federal PKI Technical Working Group

2 August 2001

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7/31/01

Overview

- What we'll be talking about today
- What's new, what's old?
- Bridge CA background
- Strategy and tactics



Who You'll be Hearing From

- Dave Lemire - A&N
 - System Overview
- Peter Hesse, Cygnacom/Entrust
- John Pawling, Getronics
- Al Ferguson, SPYRUS
- Rachel Shea, Baltimore
- Pete Peterson, Entegrity
- Dave Lemire - A&N
 - Lessons Learned
- Discussion



FPKI Problem

- Provide PKI Interoperability Throughout Federal Government
 - Single Federal Root Not Acceptable
 - Numerous PKIs Already In Place / Being Fielded
- Need to Establish Trust Paths
- Need to Ensure Certificate / CRL Availability
- Need “Bottom Up” Solution



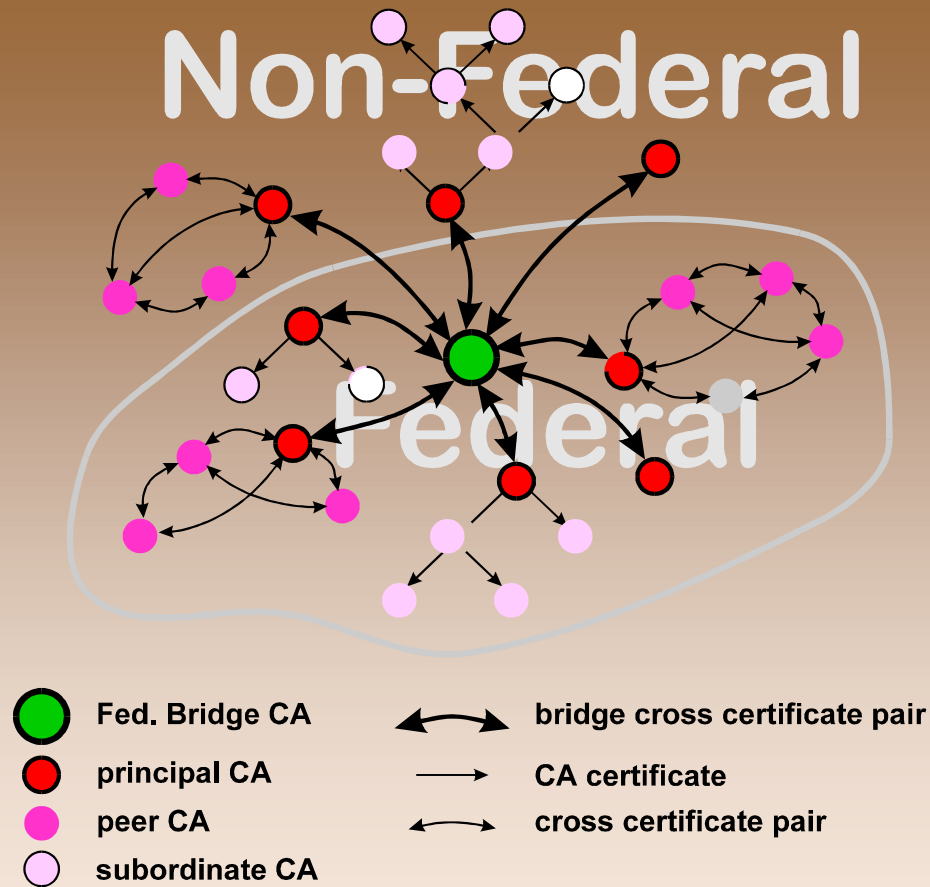
FPKI Proposal

- Build the nexus to connect the pieces
- Three key elements:
 - Federal “Bridge” CA (BCA)
 - **Not a Root!**
 - Cross certifies with Principal CAs (PCAs) in Different Domains
 - Federal Policy Authority (PA)
 - Bridge CA Repository
 - for CA certificates and status





FPKI Architecture





The BCA Demo - Problem Overview

- Multiple PKIs of Interest to US Department of Defense
 - DoD PKI
 - DoD Network Security Manager / Defense Message System / FORTEZZA PKI
 - Part of Future Key Management Infrastructure (KMI)
 - Federal Bridge Certification Authority PKI
 - PKIs Used by US Allies
 - Commercial Products Used by Vendors and Contractors
- Many PK-aware applications will not work outside their own PKI
- Many commercial client products have limitations which make using the BCA difficult



BCA Demonstration Objectives and Strategies

- Further DoD / Federal PKI Interoperability
 - **Break down “psychological” resistance to the concept by proving technology was doable**
 - Demonstrations to vendor community to increase their awareness of capabilities
 - Demonstrations to government community to increase market demand
 - **Reduce vendor investment requirements to BCA enable clients**
 - Freeware software and documentation
 - Free access to testing data and facilities



BCA Demonstration Objectives and Strategies

- **Make BCA enabled software commercially available for government purchase**
 - Collaborative development enabled rapid cross-vendor agreement on technical solutions, standards interpretation
 - Sometimes direct tasking to participants to make results of BCA effort available commercially
- **Discover and eliminate technical barriers to interoperation in commercial products**
 - Problems discovered and eliminated during development
 - Make “lessons learned” available to non-participants via study reports



BCA Demonstration Objectives and Strategies

- Show that access control technologies can be built on an interoperable authentication foundation to provide powerful information management tools

The 1999 Phase I Demo

3 PKIs + Bridge / 4 Vendors

- Signed E-Mail
- Single Signature Algorithm (RSA)
- Single Hash Algorithm (MD5)



What's New?

- Phase 2 Demonstration Has
 - **6 PKIs + Bridge / 6 Vendors**
 - **Signed, Encrypted, Labeled E-Mail**
 - **Certificate Policies**
 - **Name Constraints**
 - **Secure Web Server**
 - **SSL w/Client Certificate Verification in BCA Environment**



What's New?

- Phase 2 Demonstration Has (Cont'd):
 - **Multiple Signature Algorithms (RSA, DSA)**
 - **Multiple Hash Algorithms (MD5, SHA-1)**
 - **Content Encryption Algorithm (3DES)**
 - **Key Management Algorithm (RSA)**
 - **Access Control for E-Mail and Web Using**
 - **Security Policy Information File**
 - **Attribute Certificates**





The Players

Government Lead: NSA



Sun Microsystems

- Java[™] 2 Platform, Standard Edition, v 1.4 will include certification path development and validation features
- Sun successfully completed interoperability testing between a prerelease version of this software and the DoD Bridge CA Technology Demonstration
- A beta version of this code is available from <http://java.sun.com>
- For more information, contact: steve.hanna@sun.com

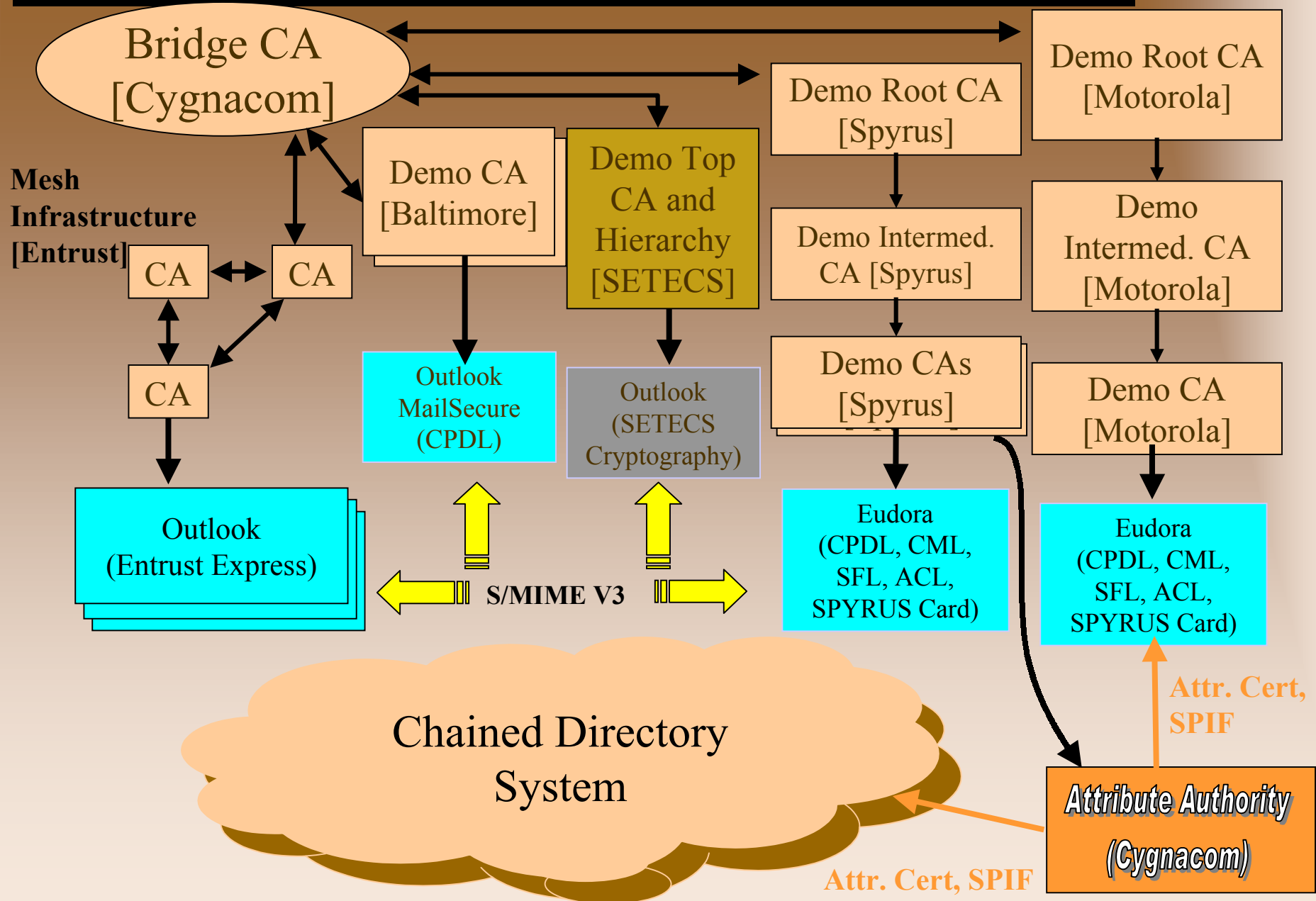


Client Limitations Contributing to PKI Stovepipes



Issue	Demo Solution
Certificate Path Development	Certificate Path Development Library
Certificate Path Processing	Certificate Management Library
Algorithms	Algorithm Agility
Secure Message Protocol	S/MIME Freeware Library
Directory Access	Chained Commercial Directories Border Directory

BCA Phase 2 Demonstration Architecture Summary





Available Software Modules

Module	Developer
Certificate Path Development Library (CPDL) http://www.cygnacom.com/products/index.htm	Cygnacom
Certificate Management Library (CML) http://www.getronicsgov.com/hot/cml_home.htm	Getronics
S/MIME Freeware Library (SFL) http://www.getronicsgov.com/hot/sfl_home.htm	Getronics
Access Control Library (ACL) http://www.getronicsgov.com/hot/acl_home.htm	Getronics
Entrust Toolkit http://www.entrust.com/developer/software/index.cfm	Entrust



On to the technical briefings...



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Wrap-Up and Summary

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What Are We Getting?

- Promote Cross-Federal security interoperation
- Demonstrates a Model for Allied Interoperation
- Provide an Option Besides Trust Lists
- Promotes Development of Commercial Products that function in BCA Environment
- Complete Interoperability Solution
- Software Libraries Available for Integration Into Commercial Products
 - S/MIME
 - Access Control
 - Certification Path Development
 - Certification Path Validation



Summary

- Bridge CA seems a good approach to achieve interoperability among “equal” public key infrastructures
- Border Directory concept provides “certificate path” interoperability
- Application limitations are a problem - but “BCA capable” applications are available



Summary

- Bridge CA demonstration attempts to prove technology, and accelerate application developments
- BCA demonstration Phase I proved concept using RSA and digital signatures, and border directories
- BCA demonstration Phase II includes encryption, attribute certificates, multiple signature algorithms, and web security



Would you like to see the demo?

- Cygnacom/McLean
 - Date: 16 August 2001
 - Times: 0900, 1300
 - Duration: about 3 1/2 hours
- Getronics Government Solutions, Annapolis Junction
 - Date: 17 August 2001
 - Time: 0900
 - Duration: about 3 1/2 hours
- Directions, sign-up sheet available here

